

DECLASS REVIEW by

NIMA/DOD

MEMORANDUM FOR: JOH For comment

John:

25X1 [] has received a request for NPIC to
 25X1 nominate a representative to a new COMIREX
 25X1 task team being formed to study requirements for
 25X1 future satellite systems. This relates to the
 25X1 issue that [] raised at a recent USIB
 25X1 Meeting. [] is to be the Chairman of
 25X1 the new task force. [] feels that we should
 25X1 name somebody today or tomorrow since []
 25X1 is anxious to begin.

Some possible names you may wish to consider:

25X1 []
 []
 A1 (10 Dec 70)
 []
 DATE)

John

COMIREX Task Team

Purpose - Prepare a study

for COMIREX & NRO on
~~future~~ ^{needs} Satellite systems - (Trade-offs -

Costs -) including Near Real Time -

Relative to / includes Crisis management

problem mentioned by

members

Chairman

CIA

DIA

NRO

Navy

Army

Air Force


State

NPIC

NSA

1st Meeting 17 Dec

Any nominees/nom for NPIC?


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WORKING PAPER

Proposed Outline Plan for COMIREX
Study of Crisis/Indications Coverage
Requirements

I. Introduction

A. Purpose - Twofold:

1. Refine initial guidance to NRO on definition and development of a near-real-time imagery system.
2. Examine the possibilities of interim satellite systems to satisfy limited needs for crisis coverage in the context of the relative trade-offs between benefits and costs.

B. Background

1. Initial USIB statement of requirements for an NRT system.
2. USIB action on recent COMIREX Outlook study.
3. Current technologies questions and background thereof (should be provided by NRO)

a. NRT

- (1) Status of system-definition and development
- (2) Trade-off considerations
- (3) Timetable for NRO decisions

b. Interim systems

- (1) Possibilities
- (2) Potential

II. Discussion

- A. Range of National Policy and Command Authority Needs for Crisis/Indications Intelligence

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1. Informed, watchful concern
2. Diplomatic-political initiatives
3. Activation of materiel support programs
4. Military force alert and/or commitment
5. Risk of nuclear war and national survival

B. Characteristics of Crisis/Indications Problems

1. Definitions
2. Spectrum--small to large
3. Phases: pre-, trans, post
4. Common features (base, in part on review of post crisis/indications situations)

C. Summary of Role and Contributions of Imagery in Support of Crisis/Indications Reporting

III. Discussion and Reassessment of Imagery Characteristics Required for Effective Collection and Reporting of Crisis/Indications Information

A. General

B. Specific characteristics

1. Image Quality
2. Ground Area Imaged
3. Continuity and Target Access
4. Imaging Capacity and Rate
5. Reliability

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6. Imagery Delivery Location and Time

7. Tasking Response Time

8. Data Transmission Security

9. Growth Potential

C. Inter-actions among above characteristics

D. Refinements of existing guidance required by NRO on above characteristics

IV. Minimum Essential Characteristics of Imagery for Crisis Indications (including priorities thereof) Short of Those Presently Specified--which would improve intelligence capabilities for monitoring crisis/indications in the FY 1973-75 time period

A. Possible Intelligence Gains from Interim Systems

B. Inherent Limitations of Interim Systems

C. Assessment of value of increase in interim system capabilities from intelligence point-of view

D. Technologic considerations and costs from NRO standpoint

V. Conclusions

VI. Recommendations

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